

## TILLING CORN TO INCREASE YIELDS

Better Methods of Cultivating Crop Are Urged for Producing More Per Acre.

### GENERAL PLAN IS OUTLINED

In Some Sections Employment of Fertilizers to Supply Needed Elements of Plant Food Is of Greatest Importance.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The use of more efficient implements will increase total production, not only by increasing acreage, but also by increasing acre yields.

Yields per acre may be increased by better methods of tilling the ground and better methods of cultivating the crop. Any general advice as to better methods of tillage must be modified to meet specific conditions, as methods found valuable in some localities may be of less value or even detrimental in other localities. As general advice the following suggestions are valuable and properly applied will lead to increased acre yields.

Land is plowed in order to loosen it and enable water to enter in greater quantity, be absorbed to greater depth, and remain longer in the soil.

A deep seed bed well supplied with soil moisture and well drained makes a big corn yield possible, whether the summer proves "too dry" or "too wet."

If not well plowed, some lands are so impervious that during several weeks of rainy weather they remain dry below a depth of 5 or 10 inches.

When the soil is loose to a sufficient depth, corn roots penetrate in abundance to a depth of 3 or 4 feet.

The growing of clover and deep-rooted plants is profitably practiced with most soils, and subsoiling is profitably practiced with some soils to increase their water-absorbing capacity and to enable the corn roots to use the soil to greater depths.

Large plows and plenty of power will facilitate this thorough preparation of the seed bed.

On many heavy clay soils the yield of corn per acre depends largely upon the thoroughness of the plowing.

It is necessary to loosen all the land and leave no large air spaces. To "cut and cover" is not good practice.

**Difference in Plowing.**  
A pasture field was plowed in alternate strips by two men, one a careful plowman and the other a poor plowman. The poorly plowed strips showed poorer corn all through the summer and produced 20 bushels less corn to the acre than the well-plowed strips. The careless plowman allowed the plow to "cut and cover" in places, leaving hard spots where the plow did not loosen the land and large air



Early Cultivation is an Aid to Increased Corn Production.

spaces where the overturned soil buckled and did not come in contact with the subsoil. Hills of corn growing on hard spots or over large air spaces usually produce poorly.

The most successful corn growers realize the importance of thorough early cultivations, which prevent any check in the growth of the plants due to weeds or crusted soil. From the time of germination to the maturing of the corn the farmer should see that the plants are not subjected to any preventable unfavorable conditions, but are permitted to make a steady vigorous growth.

**Use Weeders and Harrows.**  
Horse weeders and harrows should be used when needed to break a surface crust, check insect depredations, or kill young weeds that start before the corn is up or large enough to be worked with other implements. For the first cultivation after the plants are up, and while they are very small, narrow shovels that throw the soil very little should be used, and fenders usually are desirable to prevent the covering of the plants.

After the plants have reached a height of 2 or 3 feet, the soil, even in the middle of the rows, should not be cultivated deeper than 4 inches, and usually a shallower cultivation will prove better. For retaining soil moisture a loose soil mulch 2 or 3 inches in thickness should be maintained.

Corn should be cultivated often enough to keep down weeds and to maintain constantly a loose soil mulch until the corn has attained its growth. To this end a greater number of cultivations will be necessary when rains at intervals of about a week cause the surface soil to run together and crust.

## DEMAND FOR SUGAR LESSENER BY HONEY

Bees Will Return Profitable Crop of Sweets Each Year.

Ample Room for Expansion of Both Production and Consumption—Beekeeping Should Be Extended in Many Localities.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

With the present growing demand for sugar in the United States, it is important that every possible means be employed on the farm to produce substitutes. One way by which this can be done is to keep bees and get a crop of honey, which can be used in many ways in place of sugar. The production of honey in this country can be increased without great effort. Not only should those who already keep bees increase the number of their colonies, but the industry should be extended in localities where beekeeping has not been tried on a commercial scale.

The average annual honey crop of the United States is about 250,000,000 pounds and is sufficient to supply each



Well-arranged Apiary.

man, woman and child with about 2 1/2 pounds a year, which is equivalent to 3 per cent of the amount of sugar they consume in normal times. Thus there is ample room for expansion of both the production and consumption. The present use of honey in the home usually is as a substitute for jellies, jams, and sirup. It is little used in domestic cooking or baking, but this use should be increased. While honey within recent years has sold at prices sufficiently low to justify its use as a substitute for sugar, it is rarely used in commercial food manufacturing except in the making of certain cakes which must be kept moist for a considerable time. Usually, however, the supply of honey is so inadequate that most of the crop can be used as a spread for bread. With the use limited as it is, many people in the United States rarely eat honey, but it is evident that there might be developed a ready sale for honey as a supplement to sugar, if production were increased many times.

The amount of nectar secreted by the untold myriads of flowers, from which bees make honey, is large beyond our comprehension. The total amount of sugar in the nectar greatly exceeds the amount of all sugar and other sweets consumed by the American people. Unfortunately, from the standpoint of man, this sugar cannot all be collected and utilized as human food. Even the honey bee, which is so often used as an example of industry, consumes for its own food the larger part of all that it collects.

Beekeeping is, therefore, the means of saving for human use a small fraction of the vast store of sugar secreted. But the raw material is free and its conservation costs only a small expenditure for equipment and relatively little in labor, and the honey crop could be increased 10 or even 20 times without increasing the cost of production per pound to an appreciable degree.

### LIMESTONE FOR SOUR SOILS

Farmers Have Been Too Slow in Appreciating Its Value—Aids Manure and Fertilizer.

Ground limestone is the greatest known aid to bigger, better crops. Farmers have been far too slow in appreciating its value. Only ten years ago, not more than a few hundred tons of lime were used in this country annually. At the present time the yearly tonnage has mounted up to the million mark, but even this is too little, by far.

It has been said that one acre in every three of arable land in this country is sour. Authorities claim that lime is badly needed all over eastern Ohio. Nearly every acre of land in New England is in need of liming. Also the land of the Atlantic and Gulf coast plains. In Wisconsin, four-fifths of the land in the state needs it badly. Even in the heart of the corn belt, the richest land in the world, farmers are turning to the use of lime to grow big crops of corn and wheat. Every acre of sour land in the country badly needs and should have two to four tons of ground limestone applied.

Surely if every farm in the garden spot of America (the corn belt) finds it profitable to use lime, it will pay men in less favored sections of the country.

Not only is lime good in itself to sweeten sour farms, but it helps manure and fertilizer make good crops by liberating other vital plant foods.

## WASHINGTON GOSSIP

World of "Make-Believe" Affected by the War

WASHINGTON.—There is an alley with a gutter down the middle and bushes shooting above the fences that wall it in. All along are gates that open into back yards. And, always, little children romp in and out in play. The other morning, after a night rain had washed the cobbles and filled the gutter brim up with fresh water and put gold-green leaves on the bushes, it seemed an extra nice alley to a woman who was making a short cut through it—but people do make such ridiculous mistakes. For it wasn't an alley at all. Three boys who were floating toy boats down the gutter explained:

"This is the Atlantic ocean and this is the American navy. My destroyer is going to send that sub to the bottom and Billy's ship is laying alongside to rescue the crew. You see that woman standing before that stone wall with her arms tied and a handkerchief over her eyes? Well, she's a spy. If you wait a minute till the firing squad comes up you can see her shot, if you want to."

The woman spy, who must have been every day of four years old and who masked her iniquities in a pink gingham slip and bob curls, posed smilingly against the fence, with one eye peering over her bandage.

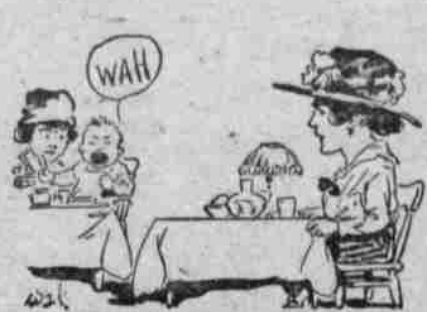
Up marched the squad, led by a drummer, knee high to that grasshopper which lends itself so accommodatingly to occasions like this.

Each soldier wore khaki or a sailor suit or an Indian costume, and all were armed with real toy guns. They lined up, took aim and the victim, terrorized by the grim make-believe of childhood, which is one of the most real things in this world, yelled out as the officer lifted a handkerchief and the squad shouted, "Bang."

But she played the game like a little sport and fell according to schedule. What a way-off, old-fashioned and uneventful world it used to be when children floated ships of clover down the stream—and hatched snakes out of horsehairs—and rode tobacco sticks—and played jack straws—and worshiped stiff china dolls with black curls painted on.

### Just the Adventures of Three Women and a Baby

SHE was dressed to kill—in the sense that she was armed with every weapon that money could forge for the fighting of that battle which woman always loses when her enemy is Time.



All the time, the woman in the fine clothes and make-up watched the baby with that hungry look that—you can't put it in words, but the next time you see a baby in a car, say, watch the passengers, men and women, and somewhere in that crowd you will catch the expression. But you couldn't spell it to save your life.

The woman looked at the baby that way, and right in the middle of its pounding and kicking and yelling, by some luck—maybe it wasn't just luck, either, but never mind that—by some luck, the baby caught the woman's glance, stopped crying, held out its arms and began to coo.

It was a clear case of hypnotism. The woman gathered up her belongings with subconscious conventionalty, paid her bill and then went straight to the baby and took him in her arms. The mother was frankly gratified that a woman of such worldly affluence should be playing nurse to her child, until—until another woman at another table—an ominously virtuous woman whose milk of human kindness seemed to have curdled came over and whispered a remark.

The mother took her baby from the woman, and the woman, understandingly, went out of that cafe mad enough to bite nails.

That was all there was to it unless—unless some day—somewhere—a vicious good meddler and an overprudent mother who snatched her baby from the arms of a middle-aged Delilah should be called to account by an accusing Judge, who, himself, loved little children when he walked the earth—a long time ago.

And serve them both right.

### Capital Claims Priority in Women Taxpayers

THAT Washington has more women taxpayers in proportion to its population than any other city in the United States reports of the income tax bureau will abundantly prove.

If you don't believe it a trip to the Legal building, Eighth and G streets, where women taxpayers stand in line all day to make their income tax returns, would convince you.

"Never knew women could be so quiet," said a mere man, as he stood there looking at the women in line. "Why, you could hear a pin drop."

"You'd be quiet, too, if you had to keep your mind on one of these blanks," spoke up a woman taxpayer.

"Net contributions, net deductions, and subdeductions. The most tangled up, mussy thing I've ever handled."

"Knitting compared to filling out an income tax return is like holding the baby when he's all dressed up and nowhere to go compared to walking him up and down the floor when he has the colic."

A woman, smiling, came over to the scene of battle. "Oh, I'm all through. It's just not so bad after all. There's a nice man who gives you a seat and tells you just what to put down, and you can ask questions about the parts you don't understand."

"Oh, you're third. Don't let any one get ahead of you. Good-by. It only takes five minutes."

### Washington Small Boy Just Now Much Disturbed

THAT the public schools of the District of Columbia should be kept open for twelve months every year was the statement of Ernest L. Thurston, superintendent of schools. Confirmed in this belief by the experiences of school officials of other cities, who have found that keeping the schools open for educational purposes has resulted in speeding up educational work and bettering the standards of both pupils and teachers. Mr. Thurston strongly urged that the District schools be put under the quarterly system, with small vacations between the quarters. This system will speed up educational processes in Washington. Last year about 1,200 pupils were accommodated in grade schools open during the summer scattered throughout the city. Two high schools were open during the summer period of about six weeks. An appropriation estimate now before congress as part of the regular District appropriations bill carries provision for money to permit many of the District high and grade schools to remain open during the summer months.

At Eveleth, Minnesota, the all-year school has grown out of a summer school that has been successfully conducted for the past six or seven years. The superintendent reports that a year ago, when special efforts were made to increase the enrollment of the summer school to over 800 pupils, it was decided to go over definitely to an all-year organization, consisting of four terms, spring, summer, fall and winter, three school months in each term.



## High Cattle Prices Accompany High Beef Prices

If consumers are to pay less for beef, live-stock raisers naturally will receive less for cattle.

If farmers are paid more for live stock, consumers will necessarily pay more for meat.

Swift & Company pays for cattle approximately 90 per cent of the price received for beef and by-products. The remaining 10 per cent pays for dressing, freight to market, operation of distributing houses, and in most cases, delivery to the retailer. Net profits also have to come out of this 10 per cent.

This margin cannot be squeezed arbitrarily without danger of crippling the only effective means of performing the complex service of converting cattle into meat and distributing this meat to the fighting forces and to consumers.

Swift & Company's net profit on beef during 1917 was only 1/4 of a cent per pound. On all products, it was a little less than four cents on each dollar of sales. Complete elimination of these profits would not affect appreciably retail prices of meat, or farm prices of live stock.

Swift & Company will be glad to co-operate in devising methods that will improve conditions in the meat and live stock industry.

1918 Year Book of interesting and instructive facts sent on request. Address Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Illinois

Swift & Company  
U. S. A.

### So to Speak.

"Lots of pretty girls visit the cantonments." "More than you can shake a swigger stick at."

### FRECKLES

Now is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as Othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of Othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it at night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength Othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Adv.

### Cannot Be Done.

"An excess of efficiency merely defeats itself," said sage Professor Pate. "The happy medium lies in knowing not only what to do but what not to do. For instance, you cannot put a sneeze back after it has emerged, nor can a woman reform a bow-legged man by marrying him. You cannot ignore the inevitable by refusing to bow to it. There is no such thing as convincing the average Hon. that the war will not be won by verbosity. You cannot accomplish the impossible, so why waste time and energy in trying?"—Kansas City Star.

### THE BLUE THAT'S TRUE.

Red Cross Ball Blue gives to clothes a clear, dazzling white, whiter than snow, not a greenish yellow tinge like cheap bottle blue. Buy Red Cross Ball Blue for next washday. You will be happily surprised. Large package at your grocers, 5 cents.—Adv.

### Waited to Hear Him Howl.

A Jennings county teacher says he criticized a pupil who was late in getting to school and demanded an explanation. The boy informed him that in passing the home of his playmate he saw the boy undergoing several applications with a slipper in the hand of his playmate's mother.

"But why should that cause you to be late?" asked the teacher.

"Well, you see, it was this way. I wanted to hear him howl," was the reply.—Indianapolis News.

### Soothe Baby Rashes

That itchy and burn with hot baths of Cuticura Soap followed by gentle anointments of Cuticura Ointment. Nothing better. For free samples address, "Cuticura, Dept. X, Boston." Sold by druggists and by mail. Soap 25, Ointment 25 and 50.—Adv.

In matrimony one and one makes one, but in divorce one from one leaves two.

### When Your Eyes Need Care

Try Murine Eye Remedy  
No Smarting—Just Eye Comfort. 50 cents at Druggists or mail. Write for Free Eye Book. MURINE EYE REMEDY CO., CHICAGO

### His Home.

Friend—Why do you put the service flag on the car instead of your home? Wife of Soldier—Because, you know, Jim lived in his car before he went to war.—Life.

### Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the

Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

### Criticism.

"Father," said the small boy, "what is constructive criticism?" "Constructive criticism, my son, is your own line of talk which if offered by some one else would be called ordinary fault-finding."

For rarely man escapes his destiny. —Aristo.

### Do Your Cows Fall to Clean?

This is a serious condition and requires prompt attention. Dr. David Roberts' Cow Cleaner Free gives quick relief. Keep it on hand and prevent the ruin of your cow. Read the Freebie Home Veterinarian. Send for free booklet on Shorties Is Cow. If no dealer in your town, write Dr. David Roberts' Vet. Co., 100 Grand Avenue, Washington, W.



For Constipation  
Carter's Little Liver Pills  
will set you right over night.  
Purely Vegetable  
Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price

### Carter's Iron Pills

Will restore color to the faces of those who lack iron in the blood, as most pale-faced people do.



W. N. U., OMAHA, NE. 10-1918.